CAREERS: LEARN TO LOVE THE THRILL OF THE CHASE

FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS, WHETHER OR NOT THEY MIGHT COME TRUE. PAGE 29

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Philly wants to end vet homelessness by 2015

Next in line. The country's veterans affairs group earmarked Philadelphia as the next city in line to focus on ending the serious issue.
Back on their feet. The head of the local veterans group says ending homelessness for vets is a lofty goal, but it can be done. PAGE 02

'Make a lot of noise for peace'

PAGE 04

Faith communities gathered yesterday in an effort to bring awareness to city violence and to talk about ways to end it. / RIKARD LARMA, METRO

Checker can sue over 'vulgar' app

PAGE 06

Until 'Duck Dynasty' do us part

PAGE 14

Affleck goes marching in with 'Saints'

PAGE 18

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1 NEWS

Local Tweet

"Charlie Manuel will always be a Phillie."

@_CM3 on the team's decision to fire its World-Series winning manager.

Top 3

Trending online at Metro.us

1 'VIDEO: Mother panda reunites with cub, shares tender moment'

2 'VIDEO: Photographer flies drone camera into groom's head during bridal shoot'

3 'VIDEO: Dancing granny rocks out at show, does "pushups"'

Local coalition plans to end vet homelessness

Dec 31, 2015. Eight organizations are teaming up to end the problem in Philadelphia in about two years.

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs set a date: Dec. 31, 2015.

Before the ball drops and Americans celebrate the start of 2016, the federal government wants to eradicate veteran homelessness.

"It is a lofty goal," said Tim Meserve, who heads the Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center on North 4th Street in Old City. "The key is working together."

Targeting major cities across the country, the VA named Philadelphia next in line. So Meserve teamed up with eight other organizations to form a coalition to end veteran homelessness in Philadelphia by the 2015 deadline.

"We came together and laid out basically a 100-day goal, through Nov. 30," said Meserve, a former lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force. "And our plan, using our collaborative resources and reaching out to some of our other partners, is to get 225 veterans housed by 30 November, 75 of those chronic homeless veterans."

Quoted

"Is it 100 percent going to work? I don't know. But they're willing to try. And that right there is amazing."

Meserve

Once the 100 days pass, the group wants to house 75 more vets through the remaining 29 months.

Their efforts are part of President Obama's goal to end veteran homelessness in every American city. It turned into a VA goal, and then a date was set. Phoenix, Ariz., is on track to end vet homelessness almost a year earlier.

The main goal is to cut down on the time it takes to get vets housed and back on their feet.

"As a team we have a great potential to get this done and get it done to the point where we can end veteran homelessness," Meserve said. "As we move forward there will always be people in and out, but we're going after the hard-core, chronic homeless."

TOMMY ROWAN
tommy.rowan@metro.us

Showing island pride at the Caribbean Festival

Phree Dantzler, of Philadelphia, displays her pride for Jamaica and Trinidad by holding both countries' flags at the 27th annual Caribbean Festival at Penn's Landing yesterday. The Philly Pan Stars, an authentic steel drum band, were featured, as well as other live music, food, souvenirs and more. / RIKARD LARMA, METRO

Wreck

Police: Girl, 2, killed in DUI crash

Delaware State Police on Saturday arrested Henry Roblero-Mazariegos, 24, for allegedly driving under the influence during a crash that killed his backseat passenger, 2-year-old Genesis Valazquez-Santizo.

Roblero-Mazariegos allegedly rear-ended a Chevrolet Trailblazer on John J. Williams Highway as it waited to make a turn. Police said Valazquez-Santizo was not properly secured, causing her to be propelled forward inside the car. She died of traumatic injuries at the Beebe Medical Center. METRO

Discovery

Bound woman found

Police made a surprising discovery in North Philadelphia over the weekend when they found a woman bound to a bed with sores on her body.

Officers on Aug. 16 responded to a neighborhood dispute on the 200 block of Linton Street in Olney. Police arrested 46-year-old Regina Bennett on several unrelated charges.

Bennett / PPD

Police also found a 36-year-old woman bound to a bed with bodily injuries. Police said she had a limited vocabulary. The woman was cut free and she admitted to Einstein Medical Center for evaluation.

How the woman and Bennett are related is not yet known. METRO

Gunfire. Two men killed in separate weekend shootings

Two people were killed in two separate shootings on Friday and Saturday. Police said Amefika Nettles, 40, was shot six times around 5:45 a.m. Friday on the 700 block of South 55th Street in West Philadelphia.

A second man, 30, was shot in the neck around 2:15 a.m. Saturday on the 1400 block of North 33rd Street in Brewerytown. Police said the man, whose identity was not yet released yesterday, crashed his car into a tree following the shooting. ALEX WIGGLESWORTH

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Mystery

Body found in Delaware River

The body of a 200-pound black male was pulled from the Delaware River in front of the Quaker City Yacht Club around 8 a.m. Saturday, police said. The medical examiner was attempting to identify the man. METRO

Outbreak

Pa. confirms West Nile

The Pennsylvania Department of Health reported the state's first human cases of West Nile Virus in 2013 after a Montgomery County man was hospitalized and a York County man also tested positive. METRO

No delays

Schools will open on time

Mayor Michael Nutter pledged last week that the city will borrow $50 million to make sure all city schools will open on Sept. 9, according to his office.

"I'm here to say I will not risk a catastrophe," Nutter said in the statement. "We will avoid this disaster."

Nutter said he would talk to the city's finance director, treasurer and budget director to "take all necessary steps" to borrow $50 million on behalf of the school district. He also said he will ask Superintendent William Hite to hire back laid-off employees. METRO

Melanie Kamuesa, of the Philadelphia Prayer Clinic Church, rallied yesterday. / RIKARD LARMA, METRO

Philly prayer warriors battle city bloodshed

March. Advocates staged a peace walk, calling for an end to violence on Philly's streets.

Members of diverse faith communities took to the streets yesterday to wage a different kind of holy war — one against violence in the city's communities.

Advocates with Operation Save Our City and The Philadelphia Prayer Clinic Church staged a peace walk at Broad Street and Girard Avenue, demanding bloodshed in Philadelphia come to an end.

"My pastor was shot and my little brother was murdered," organizer Rosalind Pichardo said.

Prayer Clinic pastor Desmond Byrd, who also led the rally, was shot less than two years ago during a carjacking.

Pichardo's brother, Alexander Martinez, was gunned down in Franklinville Jan. 9, while protecting his nephew during a robbery.

His homicide remains unsolved despite a $10,000 reward.

"We're out here to advocate in a way that can make a difference, and to make a lot of noise for peace," Pichardo said.

Participants certainly achieved their goal — cries of "Stop the violence!" echoed down Girard Avenue as marchers processed to a church service on North Marshall Street.

The effort is part of a growing trend of engaging religious communities in anti-violence activism. "[Violence] is something that when people are affected by it — and a lot of people in the faith surround themselves with people who have been affected — they pray and feel the power," Pichardo said. "It's one way to bring peace, to have Jesus in your life; it brings healing."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Quoted

"After the murder of my brother, I definitely felt prayer was important, and having faith to support you, especially in hard times, is very important."
Pichardo

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Chubby Checker can sue HP over penis app

In a twist. The Philly native said his name was used inappropriately.

A U.S. District Judge ruled in San Francisco that Philadelphia legend Chubby Checker can sue Hewlett Packard Co. over allegations that the tech company used his trademarked name on a software app that purports to measure a man's genitals.

HP spokesman Michael Thacker said the app was not created by HP or Palm. "It was removed in September 2012 and is no longer on any Palm or HP hosted website," Thacker said.

Chubby Checker / FILE PHOTO

HP began offering "The Chubby Checker" app for sale in 2006, which estimates the size of a man's genitals based on his shoe size, according to the ruling. "The name 'Chubby Checker' is thus used as a vulgar pun," according to the District Judge William Alsup's ruling.

The musician informed HP that the app violated his trademark, and he sued earlier this year.

In an effort to dismiss the lawsuit, HP claimed that Evans failed to allege HP knew of the infringement.

Alsup rejected that argument, saying Evans properly alleged that HP had a detailed application and approval process for the app, and thus knew it violated the trademark.

Alsup did dismiss other claims brought by Evans, but gave him a chance to refile the lawsuit to try to move forward on them.

Chubby Checker first gained fame in 1960 when "The Twist" rose to No. 1. REUTERS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) is a participant in the Moving to Work Demonstration Program (MTW). PHA was initially selected to participate in the MTW Program in 2001. In October 2008, PHA entered into an Amended and Restated Moving to Work Agreement ("MTW Agreement") with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"), which has subsequently been further amended.

The MTW Agreement defines the terms and conditions under which PHA is a participant in the MTW Program. The MTW Agreement requires that PHA submit an MTW Annual Plan for HUD review and approval. PHA's current MTW Annual Plan for MTW Year Thirteen (PHA Fiscal Year 2014) was approved by HUD on May 30, 2013.

PHA is seeking public review and comments on two proposed actions relative to the MTW Program:

- **Amendment to the MTW Agreement** – The proposed amendment to the MTW Agreement will provide PHA with additional flexibility in utilizing Replacement Housing Factor funds received by PHA from HUD.
- **Amendment to the MTW Year Thirteen Annual Plan** – The proposed amendment to the MTW Annual Plan will: 1) Establish that PHA may apply to convert one or more public housing sites under the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program and that PHA may utilize MTW Block Grant funds to support the conversion; and, 2) Allow PHA to establish a flexible subsidy program for newly developed or acquiredpublic housing units, subject to HUD review and approval of each transaction.

Additional information regarding the proposed amendments is available from PHA. Copies are available for public review on PHA's website at: www.pha.phila.gov under the "Latest News" section or may be picked up at the following locations:

- **Housing Choice Voucher Program Office:** 2850 Germantown Ave 1st & 2nd Floor
- **Scattered Sites Management Offices:** 3417 Spring Garden Street, 1821 Vineyard St. 3226 McMichael St., 3218 Susquehanna Avenue, 400 W. Huntingdon St.
- **Public Housing Management Offices:** Bartram - 5404 Gibson Drive, Wilson Park - 2500 Jackson St., Raymond Rosen – 2110 N. 23rd St., Blumberg - 2311 W. Jefferson St.

PHA residents, Housing Choice Voucher participants and the general public may attend and provide comments at the Public Hearing described below and/or submit written comments on these proposed actions any time during the comment period. The Public Hearing is scheduled for the following time and location: **August 27, 2013 10 a.m. until noon, 1100 Poplar Street, Philadelphia, PA19123, Multipurpose Room.**

Only comments pertaining to the proposed actions noted above are being solicited. The comment period begins on August 6, 2013 at 12 noon and ends September 5, 2013 at 12 noon.All comments must be received by the end of the comment period. Please send your writtencomments to: **Philadelphia Housing Authority, Office of Policy, Research and Enterprise Planning, Attention: MTW Comment, 1606 Swain St., Philadelphia, PA 19130.**

The Public Hearing is being held in an accessible location. If you require assistance, sign language interpreter or other accommodations, please call 215-684-4000. Please use the AT&T Relay Service for TTY.

Philadelphia Housing Authority
Building Beyond Expectations

Opinion

JOHN BOLARIS

BOLARIS VISION

I LET MYSELF DOWN

They say it's always darkest before sunrise. Well, it's been dark for me personally for close to two years now since I lost my dream job back on Dec. 24, 2011.

To everyone who knew me, I was destined to be TV weatherman. I'd pray every night, draw my weather maps trying to predict if the snow storm would hit. My only electronic in my room was an all-weather band radio so I could track thunderstorms and hurricanes. I would take my bike and act like a stormchaser. I would try to beat thunderstorms to a particular location, so I could snap a picture.

I took over radio programming at a local radio station called WALK-FM when Hurricane Gloria was approaching. The program director thought I was nuts, said, "you're on your own" and left me with a hot mic.

Quoted

I separated myself from corporate rules and paid a dear price. I lost what I worked all my life for — living my dream.

I always wanted to make my parents proud, so when my dad passed away on Oct. 8, 1983, I buried him in a CBS-TV T-shirt underneath his suit. My dad was a huge CBS news fan and thought that I should be doing weather for them. I would laugh, although I would dream about it.

On Oct. 8, 1987, I signed my very first TV contract for CBS-TV, the biggest thrill of my life. I had no agent, I was working radio and had an opportunity to fill in on a local Cablevision show called News12. Eric Ober, who at the time was the president of CBS news, was watching me on News12. He called me a raw talent with a ton of potential. "Let's take a chance on this kid who doesn't even own a suit." Well, the rest is history.

I thought I was indestructible in this industry, so at times I simply marched to my own beat. Well, there are rules to be followed by everyone, and I ignored that. I separated myself from corporate rules and paid a dear price. I lost what I worked all my life for — living my dream.

I let myself down, let my bosses down, but most of all I let my daughter down. I apologize, waiting for the sun to rise once again. I promise I won't let you down.

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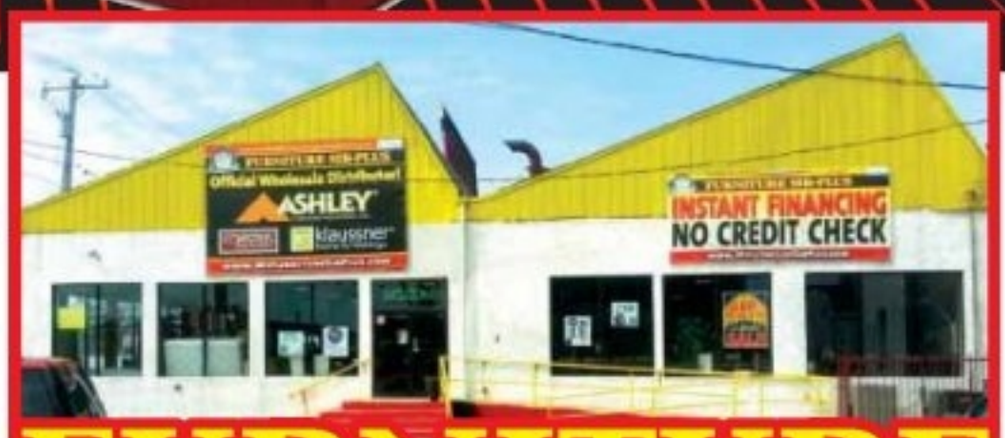

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Smoke comes out from the Southwest E-ring of the Pentagon building Sept. 11, 2001, in Arlington, Va., after a plane crashed into the building and set off a huge explosion. / GETTY IMAGES

Gitmo prosecutors want a 2014 trial for 9/11 attack case

Terrorism. They were arraigned in May 2012, more than a decade after the attacks.

Prosecutors in the Guantanamo war crimes tribunal are pushing the judge to set a September 2014 trial date in the 9/11 case, a decision that could hinge on how deeply the defense is allowed to delve into the defendants' treatment in secret CIA prisons.

A U.S. military judge, Army Colonel James Pohl, will hear arguments on the issue in a weeklong pretrial hearing that begins today at the Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base in Cuba.

Prosecutors want to speed up the hearing schedule and start the death penalty trial next fall for the alleged mastermind of the 9/11 plot, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, and four alleged co-conspirators.

The court has since scheduled weeklong pretrial hearings about every six weeks, mostly to hear defense challenges.

Some hearings were canceled because of computer problems and tropical storms at the remote Caribbean base. Others veered away from the docket to address whether military and intelligence agents were spying on supposedly confidential attorney-client discussions, an issue that is still unresolved.

Prosecutors want the judge to set firm deadlines for new filings, hold month-long hearings to work through a backlog of outstanding motions and be ready to start picking a jury on Sept. 22, 2014. **REUTERS**

Killed

2,976

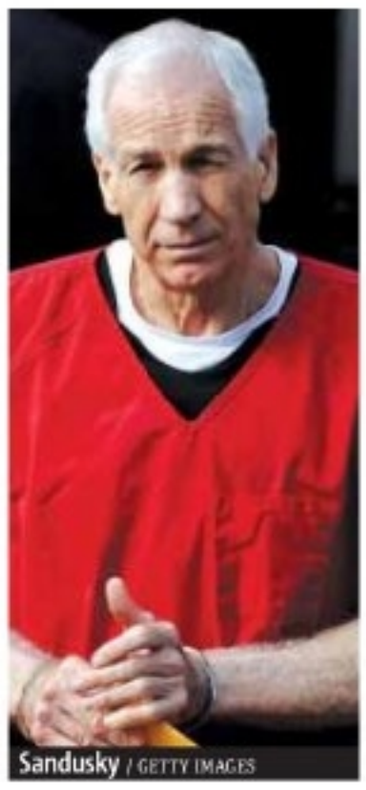
Total killed when al Qaeda hijackers smashed four commercial jetliners into the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in the Washington area and a field in Pennsylvania

Sex abuse. First settlement reached in Penn State civil case

Pennsylvania State University has agreed to a settlement with a 25-year-old man who was sexually abused by former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky in a campus shower, the man's attorney said late on Saturday.

It is the first of 26 claims to be finalized in the scandal, Philadelphia attorney Tom Kline told Reuters. He declined to give details of the settlement but the university has approved spending $60 million for the payouts.

The man, known as Victim 5 in court proceedings, was assaulted by Sandusky in August 2001, six months after then-graduate assistant Michael McQueary reported to university officials that he saw Sandusky rape a boy in a campus shower. **REUTERS**



Sandusky / GETTY IMAGES

More lawmakers urge suspension of US aid to Egypt

Activists of Pasban Pakistan burn an effigy of Egyptian General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi during a pro-Morsi rally in Karachi yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES

Violence. About 800 people have died in three days of fighting in Egypt.

A growing bipartisan chorus of U.S. lawmakers said yesterday that the United States should suspend its $1.5 billion in military and economic aid to Egypt following a violent crackdown on protesters.

Senator John McCain, a top Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, said he now supports suspending the aid, even though he initially believed it should be continued after the Egyptian military removed democratically elected President Mohamed Morsi from office last month.

"I wanted to give [Egypt's military leaders] an opportunity to do the right thing after the coup had taken place," McCain said on CNN's "State of the Union" program. But after the crackdown, aid should be withheld, he said.

"For us to sit by and watch this happen is a violation of everything that we stood for," McCain said, arguing there are several other steps the United States could also take, such as withholding support for an International Monetary Fund loan or stopping shipments of military spare parts. REUTERS

Gulf Arab support

$12B

At issue, too, is the U.S. relationship with key Gulf Arab states, including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, which have promised the military-backed government some $12 billion in financial support.

Death toll climbs

Egypt's cabinet debates fate of Brotherhood

Egypt's army-backed rulers met yesterday to discuss their bloody confrontation with deposed President Mohamed Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood amid contrasting proposals for compromise and a fight to the death.

The Brotherhood, under huge pressure since police stormed its camps in Cairo on Wednesday, staged several more marches across the country to demand the reinstatement of Morsi.

Security sources

Brotherhood supporters die in Egypt prison

Some 38 supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood died yesterday in an incident at an Egyptian prison, security and legal sources said, giving conflicting versions of the deaths.

The Interior Ministry did not immediately confirm the death toll, but said in a statement that a number of detainees had tried to escape from a prison on the outskirts of Cairo and had taken a police officer hostage.

Abdel Fattah al-Sisi

Army chief to Morsi supporters: Egypt has room for everyone

Egypt's army chief, Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said in a speech to military and police officers yesterday that his message to the supporters of deposed Islamist President Mohamed Morsi is that "there is room for everyone in Egypt."

But Sisi also warned that anyone who resorts to violence would not be tolerated.

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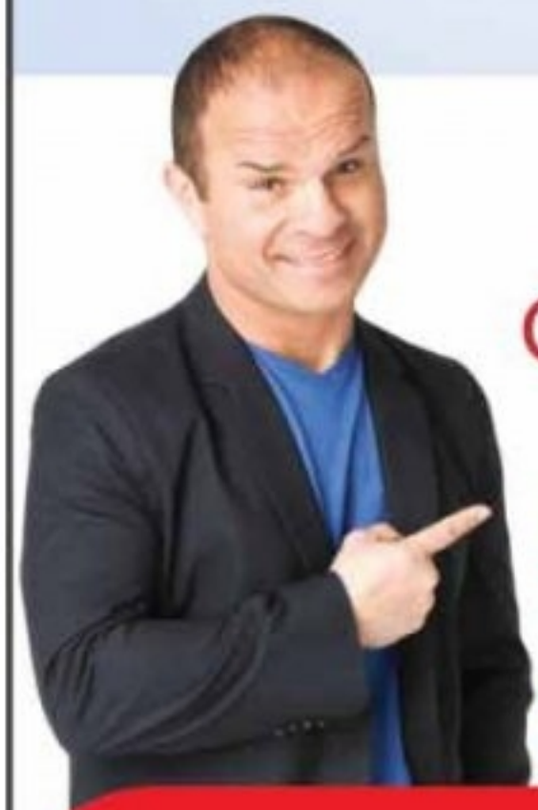

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Firefighters step up battle in Idaho blaze near luxury resorts

Resort. The towns nestled in a narrow mountain valley are known for hiking, fishing and skiing.

Firefighters readied for a massive ground and air attack yesterday against a wildfire in central Idaho that has forced the evacuation of some 2,250 homes and threatens the posh Sun Valley ski resort.

The fire raging across parched sagebrush, grasslands and pine forests near high-end developments in Sun Valley has consumed 101,000 acres and destroyed one home and seven other buildings since a lightning strike sparked the blaze on Aug. 7.

More than 1,000 firefighters were preparing yesterday for what fire officials called "a heavy air show" in a drive to gain the upper hand over a blaze fed by low humidity, high temperatures and gusting winds.

Air tankers equipped with fire retardant and helicopters hauling water were to lead the fight yesterday to protect the 5,128 residences, 1,399 commercial properties and 3,729 outbuildings threatened by the fire, said federal fire information officer Jim Chu.

For the first time since the so-called Beaver Creek fire ignited, weather conditions yesterday favored firefighting efforts. A rise in humidity levels overnight paired with calmer winds made yesterday a crucial day in the push to knock down a fire that has advanced on affluent neighborhoods around the tourist town of Hailey and resort communities of Ketchum and Sun Valley.

"Saturday was really, really scary, but things seem to be looking up a bit today," said Carrie Morgridge, owner of Hailey Coffee Company. REUTERS

Valuable land

$8B

The land and property in the area that is being threatened by the fire is worth some $8 billion, fire officials said yesterday.

Days

11

The 11-day battle against the advancing flames has strained the tourism economy of the region at the height of the summer recreation season.

Quoted

"In the good, in the bad, we will do what it takes to stay a community, to be an extended family, because that's really what we are." Morgridge

Damascus

UN chemical weapons inspectors to start work in Syria today

The U.N. chemical weapons investigation team arrives in Damascus yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES

A team of U.N. chemical weapons experts have arrived in Damascus and will start working today to investigate the possible use of chemical weapons in Syria's civil war.

President Bashar al-Assad's government and the rebels fighting him have accused each other of using chemical weapons, a step which the United States had said would cross a "red line" in a conflict which has killed 100,000 people.

Like the broader Syrian conflict, the issue of chemical weapons has divided world powers. Washington said in June it believed Assad's forces have used them on a small scale, while in July Moscow said rebels fired sarin gas near Aleppo in March.

The U.N. team, including weapons experts from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, will try to establish only whether chemical weapons including sarin and other toxic nerve agents were used, not who used them.

The 20-member team declined to comment to reporters as they checked into a hotel in central Damascus yesterday. A U.N. statement in New York said they would start work today. REUTERS

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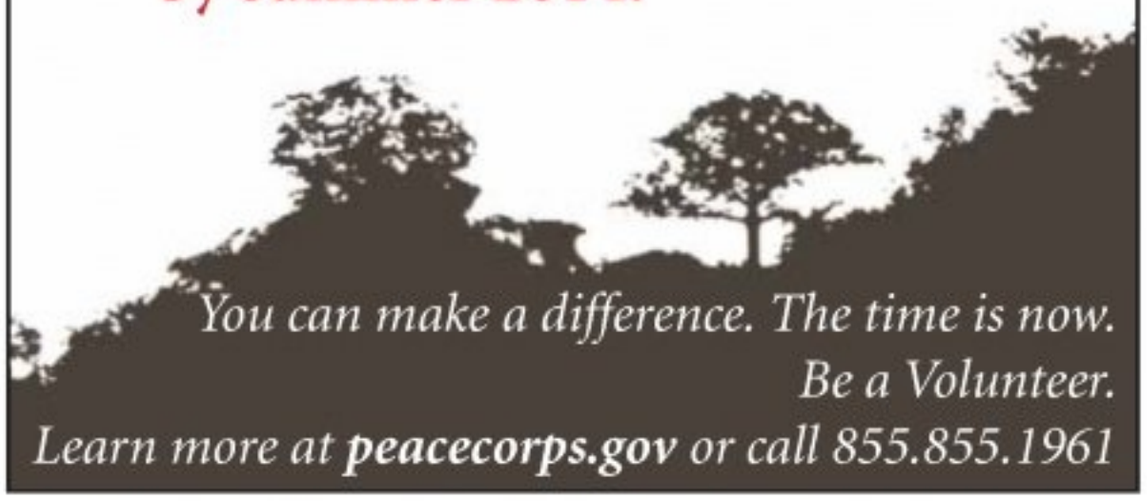

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Boats. Fishermen in Spain protest artificial reef in Gibraltar

Spanish fishermen protested against the creation of an artificial reef in the bay of Gibraltar yesterday and claimed the territory's authorities were blocking their access to the waters in the latest focus of tensions between Spain and Britain.

For just over an hour, some 30 fishing boats circled where 70 3-ton concrete blocks were dropped in July to form a reef that Spain said was not legal and prompted the government to ramp up border checks with the British overseas territory.

The extra controls, which have caused long waits for the thousands of tourists and locals, led British Prime Minister David Cameron to call on the European Commission to urgently send a team of monitors.

Britain claims the measures are "politically motivated and disproportionate," while Spain says it will sue Gibraltarian authorities for environmental damage from the reef.

In retaliation, Spain has threatened to impose a $67 border fee on tourists, restrict air space or block the enclave's lucrative ship fuelling business.

The territory has a population of 30,000 and relies on tourism, online gaming and offshore banking and was ceded to Britain by Spain in the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht.

REUTERS

Costly

1.5M

The fisherman claim that the dispute over the shared waters around Gibraltar has cost them 1.5 million euros in potential income over the last year.

Spanish fishing boats sail during a protest by Spanish fishermen in the sea near the Spain/Gibraltar border yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES

The Museum of Bad Art tells it like it is

Forget the critics. One man's trash is another man's treasure in this art world.

The revolution started in a trash pile when an antiques dealer found an awful painting and framed it. From that moment the Museum of Bad Art was born, promoting art that "has gone horribly awry in either its concept or execution," and has been so successful it stocks three U.S. galleries. Curator Michael Frank filled us in.

Why are you so successful? Has the volume of bad art expanded?
There is no shortage of bad art, and our concept has been appreciated around the world. It's not just that the art is bad — it has to have been an honest attempt that went wrong somewhere, nothing cynical.

Do artists get upset when their work appears in the museum?
Obviously the adjective "bad" is problematic, and yes it happens. But more often they are delighted to be represented, and many artists donate their own work. We do an interpretation of every piece and always give the artist proper credit. We are never disrespectful.

Bad enough to make it
THE MUSEUM OF BAD ART

More galleries

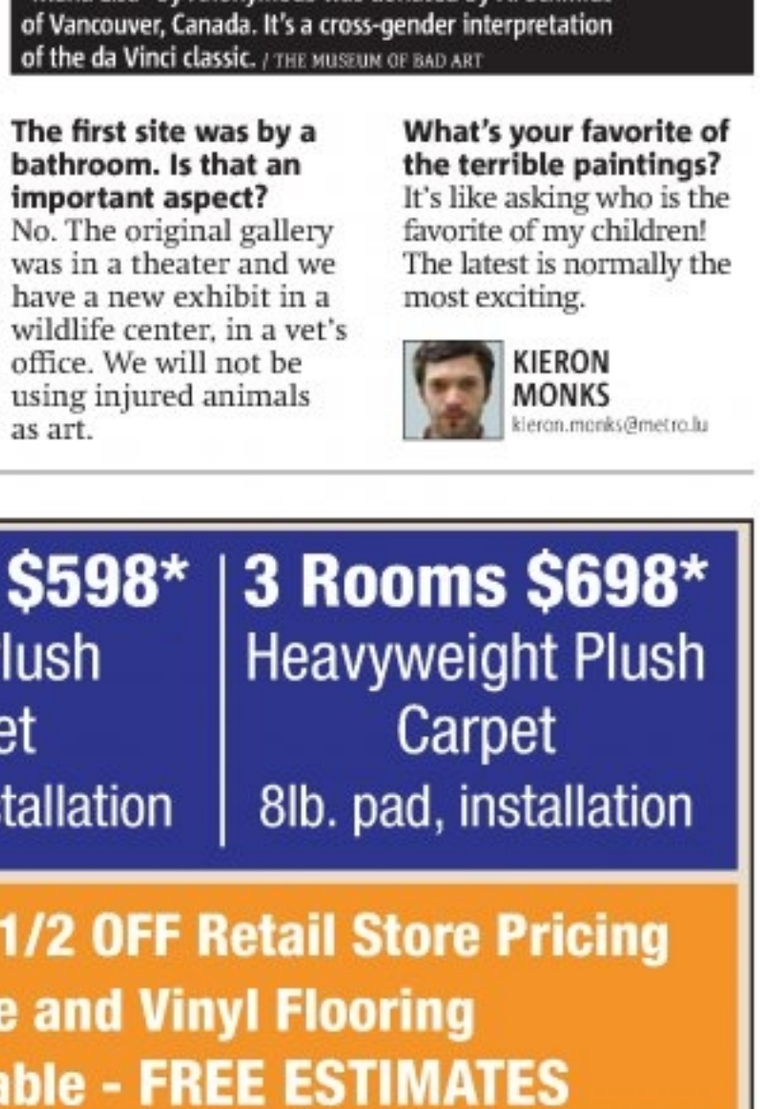
Other MOBAs have started to appear. Are you a movement?

Yes, these places should exist. There is one in Australia and another in Ohio that both give us credit.

I want to contribute. What style does MOBA like best?
There's a wide variety, but we have a lot of people painted blue. Also it should be representational art, and it's physically difficult for us to deal with 3-D work.

The first site was by a bathroom. Is that an important aspect?
No. The original gallery was in a theater and we have a new exhibit in a wildlife center, in a vet's office. We will not be using injured animals as art.

What's your favorite of the terrible paintings?
It's like asking who is the favorite of my children! The latest is normally the most exciting.



"Mana Lisa" by Anonymous was donated by A. Schmidt of Vancouver, Canada. It's a cross-gender interpretation of the da Vinci classic. / THE MUSEUM OF BAD ART

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2

CULTURE

Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

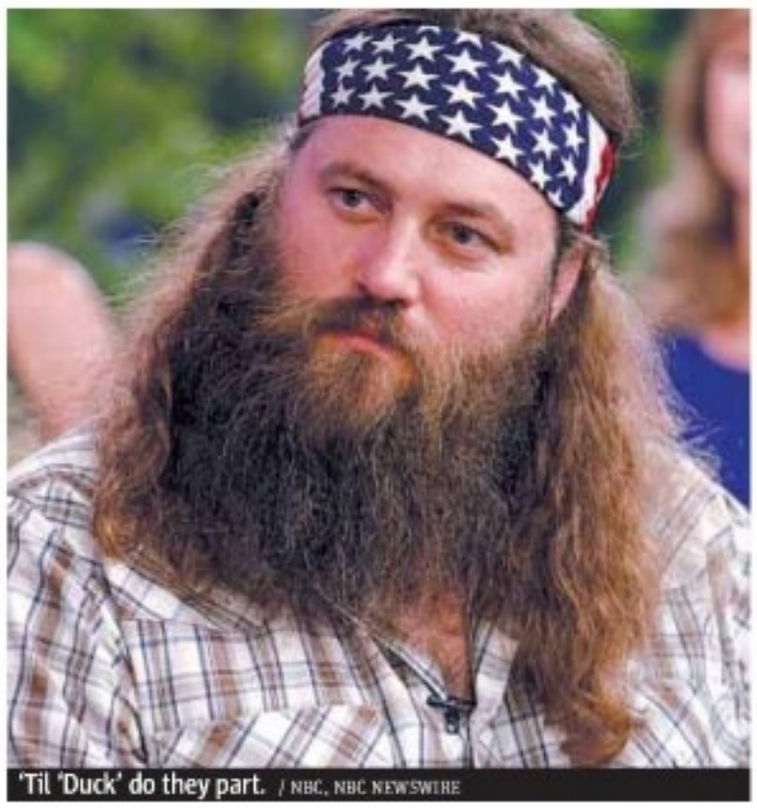
Today, Anna Kendrick thinks she's being patronized, Dwayne Johnson doesn't mind making a scene, Joss Whedon is being realistic and Lady Gaga has a lot more to say.

@AnnaKendrick47: I suspect the only time Brits actually do the kiss-on-each-cheek thing is with visiting Americans bc they know it will make us feel cultured

@TheRock: Be intense. Be hungry. Be prepared to get kicked outta the gym.

@josswhedon: I do not fear death. I only fear MINE.

@ladygaga: To the critic who speaks before they bang the gong: a fool you are I say! I've not even begun my song!



'Til 'Duck' do they part. / NBC, NBC NEWSWIRE

1 And the bride wore camouflage

"Duck Dynasty" star Willie Robertson just made one newlyweds' day.

On Saturday, Pennsylvania couple Mehgan Cook and Charlie Miller decided to move their wedding to the nearby Field & Stream, located outside of Pittsburgh, so they could meet Robertson, who was scheduled to be at the store for a book signing. "I was going to cancel the wedding 'cause I heard Willie was coming," Cook told KDKA-TV, which, you know, is a pretty good sign of her dedication to the whole "marriage" thing.

Robertson gave them a little blessing, telling them to always love and forgive one another. Cook donned a camouflage sash on her wedding dress, while her fiance was dressed all in camo, complete with an orange headband, lest they get shot by another hunter mistaking them for wildlife on their wedding day. Robertson said of the wedding: "That's a first for me, it's good to be a part of that. They look like my kind of folks with the camouflage. That was cool."

TOM CRUISE

GETTY IMAGES FOR THE US-IRELAND

2 Tom Cruise wears thongs

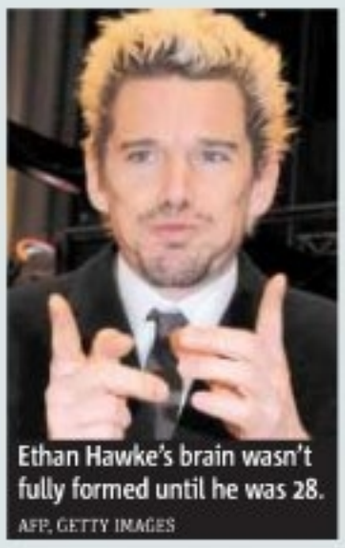
In today's Highly Dubious Yet Slightly Hilarious News, it looks like Tom Cruise demands to wear G-strings while filming his action sequences.

"He was embarrassed at first but he sees it as a way of improving his flexibility as he gets older," a source tells the Daily Star, who says that on-set wardrobe departments need around 50 pairs on hand. "He's pretty insistent about having a new thong every time. He sees it as dedication to his craft."

Cruise's love of the sexy undergarment reportedly stems from the fact they provide him with "comfort and flexibility." Right. Because nothing says comfort like a string up the butt.

Talking points

Lohan loves herself in movies



Ethan Hawke's brain wasn't fully formed until he was 28. AFP, GETTY IMAGES

Lindsay Lohan may in fact be her own biggest fan. A fellow Cliffside Malibu patient tells Radar Online that Lohan spent some of her time in rehab watching movies in which she'd starred. "There was more than once when Lindsay would rent or buy a movie on iTunes that she'd starred in," the source says. "She basically forced me to watch that crappy movie 'I Know Who Killed Me' with her, the one where she plays a stripper." Apparently Lohan didn't see anything wrong with her viewing habits. "She's such a narcissist and attention-seeker that she didn't think it was weird at all to watch her own movies," the source insists. "Everyone else thought it was really embarrassing of her to do that. But whatever, it was like she was trying to re-live a time when she was actually a working actress."

Hawke on marrying too young

Ethan Hawke definitely thinks he was too young to marry Uma Thurman back when he was 27, according to Elle magazine. "There was this discovery that the male brain isn't done until 28. I definitely think my frontal lobe was not finished," he tells the magazine. "I had no business taking vows that would last more than two weeks." In his defense, Hawke says he was looking to use marriage as a way to gain some sense of control over his life. "Success when you're young is really overwhelming. The world felt out of control and I wanted to stop it from spinning so fast," he says. "I thought marriage would decrease my variables or something. I was absolutely wrong."

More on Brown's community service

Chris Brown isn't quite in the clear yet. As part of a negotiation to get the Los Angeles District Attorney to not rescind his probation over a recent hit-and-run charge, the singer must instead serve an additional 1,000 hours of community service, according to E! News. Brown can fulfill the extra requirement doing beach cleanup or graffiti removal or taking part in a probation alternative work program. He is currently serving probation over his 2009 assault of Rihanna and will be on probation until Aug. 24, 2014.

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
@dorothyatmetro
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

3 Tina Fey returns to TV

Tina Fey is on a roll and making a pretty penny selling two new sitcoms in just one week.

On Tuesday, NBC bought the currently untitled, Fey-produced "female-centered workplace project." And Deadline reported yesterday that Fox bought another comedy by the "30 Rock" star, which revolves around a women's college after it decides to accept men.

TINA FEY

GETTY IMAGES

Beyonce's hair, part II

Well, now she is just messing with us. A week after she blew up the Internet by debuting her new pixie cut on Instagram, Beyonce showed off a longer bob on Saturday at a concert in England. And that, readers, was your Beyonce Hair Update for the day. / WIREIMAGE

Celebs. Looking good and having fun around the town

1 Actress **Vanessa Hudgens**, left, and professional wrestler **Layla El** had a blast at WWE & E! Entertainment's "Superstars for Hope" at the Beverly Hills Hotel on Aug. 15, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

2 Singer **Ne-Yo** attended the Compound Foundation's second annual "Fostering a Legacy Benefit" on Saturday in East Hampton, N.Y.

3 Musician **Travis Barker** also attended "Superstars for Hope," with his kids Alabama Luella, left, and Landon Asher Barker.

4 Singer **Ozzy Osbourne** stayed at Tribeca Hotel while he visited New York City on Aug. 16.

5 **Justin Timberlake** performed an intimate private concert in Miami Beach on Friday.

6 **Heidi Klum** showed off her talent for looking amazing at the "America's Got Talent" post-show red carpet at Radio City Music Hall on Wednesday of last week.

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Azealia Banks recently rocked the crowd during Red Bull Sound Select. / CHRIS OWYOUNG, REDBULL CONTENT POOL

Banks puts her money where her mouth is

Album. After more than a year and a half of hype, Azealia Banks is ready to go "Broke With Expensive Taste."

There is a reason behind everything Azealia Banks does, and it's usually centered on unleashing her inner creativity — whether it's yelling the c-word while wearing a Mickey Mouse sweater or strutting around stage in a motocross suit.

"I do my thing. I do whatever I feel like doing," Banks says. "People tried to define me and I tried to define myself, and I came up with all these explanations of what I do, but there is no explanation for what I do."

Even calling Banks a female rapper is a stretch. She refuses to be lumped into that whole scene.

"A lot of female rappers coming out are post-hip-hop, or post-Nicki Minaj, or post-Young Money," she says. "I feel like I really transcended that whole kitschy, female rap scene."

It's hard to believe that Banks is only 22 years old. She comes across as mature beyond her years, sounding like a hip-hop psychologist in interviews.

"People like me notice all the social trends, not to say that I don't like them, but I'm looking a little deeper," Banks says. "I grew up on the Internet. ... It would be nice to see pop culture do three things at once, instead of one general trend. It's a lot of the sameness ... it's like I've been eating the same thing for dinner for 10 years in a row."

For those who want something else, there is Banks' "Broke With Expensive Taste," her highly anticipated debut album, which she says took her five years to create. The way she sees it, this is the way that she'd like to introduce herself.

"This is my actual arrival. All the other stuff was just me trying to figure out what I was," she says. "I've been working on it since I was 17. '1991' and 'Van Vogue,' those were songs I was saving for my album, but because there was such a demand for me, I had to put them out early."

The album is set to drop this fall, either October or November, according to Banks. She confirms it has its roots in rap, but listen for her growth and maturity as an artist — there are distinct jazz and punk rock influences bouncing around.

"When I first came out, I wasn't trying to see how I fit into that paradigm of success of the music business," Banks says. "I took on a lot of personas that weren't me. I tried to behave in a way, got carried away with the idea of being a female rapper, but I'm so much more than that. ... I think the music on this album is the most sophisticated I've ever created."

MICHAEL GREGER
michael.greger@metro.us

Upcoming

From the 212 to the UK

Banks recently dazzled the crowd during a Philadelphia stop at Voyeur Nightclub on the Red Bull Sound Select "Break Music" tour. She played a nearly-30-minute set, highlighted by the Harlem queen's anthem "212."

Banks says she will embark on a tour to promote her new album, "Broke With Expensive Taste," starting in the U.K. in November and December and coming to the U.S. in February and April. Dates are tentative at press time.

Quoted

"I feel like I really transcended that whole kitschy, female rap scene." Banks

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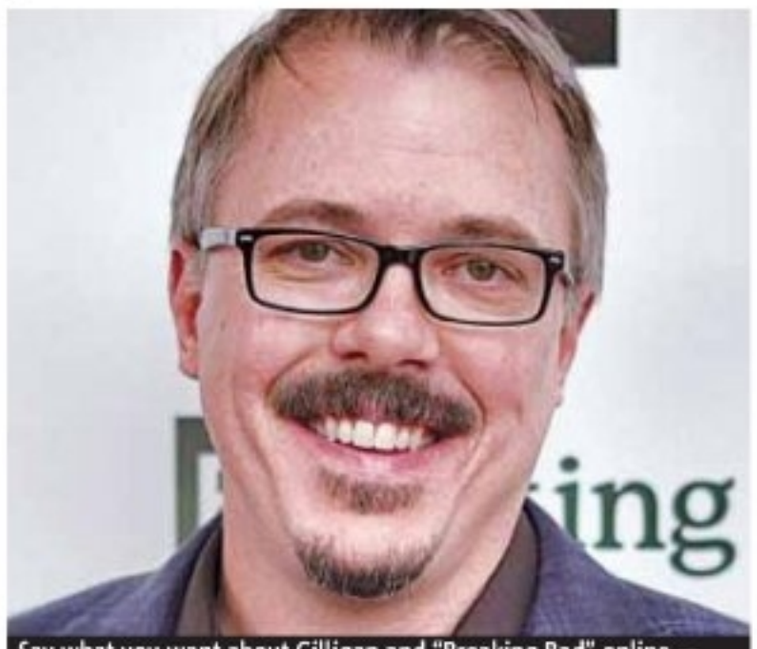
Making it and 'Breaking' it

Television. Vince Gilligan pondered all the options for the final episodes of "Breaking Bad."



Say what you want about Gilligan and "Breaking Bad" online — Gilligan won't read it. "If I started to look up fan reactions on the Internet, it would be a sort of rabbit hole that I would disappear down and never return," he says. / GETTY IMAGES

"Breaking Bad" creator Vince Gilligan is having trouble remembering to talk about things in the past tense.

"I say this in present tense, but it's all past tense now, which makes me sad anew," he says with a laugh while discussing the finale to his groundbreaking, award-winning series.

He knew when to say when: "I never had any arguments, but I had [lead actor] Bryan Cranston say, 'Are you sure you want to end it?' I had Sony and AMC say, 'Are you sure you want to end it?' And it all came from a place of enthusiasm. ... And I have those same feelings," Gilligan admits. "But it wasn't that hard of a decision to end it. I wanted it to end on a high note and not go past its expiration date."

He scrapped the original ending: "I'm very impressed with J.K. Rowling for knowing where 'Harry Potter' was going to end," he says. "I had ideas. ... And I discarded them pretty quickly once I hired my six writers. This last year, where we knew we had these final 16 episodes, we went through many, many possibilities. In fact, we went through every possibility we could think of because we didn't want to leave any stone unturned. ... That's why it took way longer than I thought it would take."

There's no movie: "It'd be a bit of an injustice ... for it to end in a fashion that didn't feel complete and satisfying on the small screen. We're leaving it all on the field with the final eight episodes."

NED EHRBAR
ned.ehrbar@metro.lu

Hat is enough

Not 'Bad' enough for a tattoo

Vince Gilligan did not tag along with Bryan Cranston and Aaron Paul to get commemorative "Breaking Bad" tattoos: "I am not a tattoo guy," Gilligan says. "I'm not scared of needles or anything or how much it hurts. It just felt like, I don't know — I have the Heisenberg hat."

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CASEY AFFLECK

The "Ain't Them Bodies Saints" star talks playing tortured characters, directing actors and facial hair.

THE SHOOTER INSIDE HIM

In writer-director David Lowery's "Ain't Them Bodies Saints," Casey Affleck plays a quiet, gentle man sent to prison after taking the rap for shooting a cop to protect the real criminal, his wife (Rooney Mara). It's a quiet, complicated role full of the kinds of contradictions that really get Affleck going as an actor — even if he's only just now realizing that.

Your character in this Texas-set story is almost the polar opposite of the one you played in "The Killer Inside Me."
The character in "The Killer Inside Me" was a sociopath serial killer, and this guy is, like, the gentlest romantic. In "The Killer Inside Me," he seems like a dull but sort of vaguely charming good ol' boy, but he's actually a total lunatic. Whereas [this character] is perceived as being a violent criminal and he's actually a very good-hearted man. That's interesting. I guess I am drawn to characters for whom their internal life, their fantasy about themselves, is at odds with whom they really are or how they are perceived by others.

Do you make any sort of moral judgment of these characters?
No. I mean, there's no one in the movie that's a bad person, is there? I feel like David [Lowery] was really careful about showing the human side of everyone, the light and the dark. I think that it's supposed to be about that romantic idealism of youth that can be reckless without regard for consequence and what happens to that attitude when the person matures into adulthood.

Do you think it's important for a director to know when to get out of the actors' way?
I think it is. I can say it myself. I directed once, and I felt like oftentimes I would imagine the way a scene was going to go, and when it wasn't going that way the impulse was to get in there and start manipulating the details so that it more closely resembled the way that I had envisioned it. And knowing when to do that and when not to do that is part of what makes a good director. And David has a natural gift for that — the wisdom to know when to put a fingerprint on something and when not to.

Facial hair

How much does facial hair factor into performance? And did you and Ben Foster have a mustache-off?
There were no mustache-offs, no competitions. But the director has a whopper of a mustache. He looks like a bald Tom Selleck. And the two producers look like ZZ Top, so there's a lot of facial hair happening.

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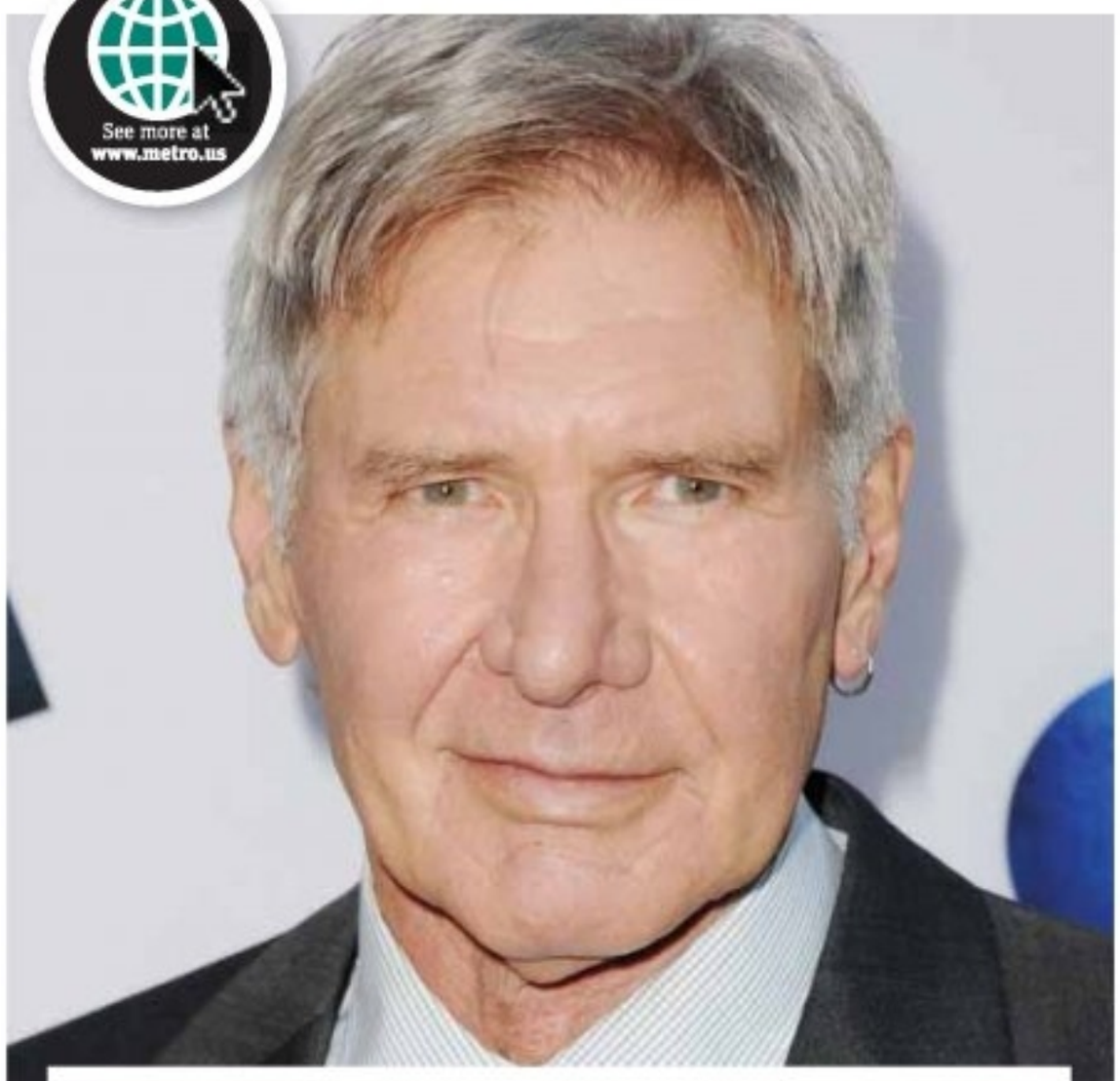

HARRISON FORD

Sorry, nerds — we asked Harrison Ford zero questions about "Star Wars" or "Indiana Jones."

PLAYING THE BAD GUY

Harrison Ford isn't as terrifying to talk to as you might have heard. Over the years he's gotten a reputation as gruff, pissy, transparently wishing he was somewhere else. This isn't completely true — as long as your questions aren't too dumb, and especially if they aren't about "Star Wars" or "Indiana Jones." Now 71, he's relaxed into supporting or at least co-lead roles, which he continues as one of the villains in the tech-world thriller "Paranoia."

This is another film about technology, about which you've voiced negative opinions in the past.
I'm just not a huge fan of so much connectivity. I use it for research and to take messages. I don't much love it. It's a love-hate relationship. Or a like-hate relationship.

"Paranoia" touches on some important issues: income gaps, greed, health insurance. Were these what drew you to the film?
No. I was drawn to the character, and the manipulation of an ambitious young person by two powerful businessmen. And it was the opportunity to play a character different from what I've played lately. I haven't played the bad guy for a long time.

Did you do anything differently to get in a different mind-set?
I shaved my head. I shaved my hairline back and dyed my hair for "42." There was no way

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it was going to grow out in time to be useful. So I presented myself to Paramount people with a shaved head, much to their surprise.

You've been doing a lot more supporting and co-lead roles lately. Is that a way of getting rid of the burden of having to be the lead and carry a whole movie on your lonesome?
You have the ability when people complain to say, "Hey, I just work here. Take it up with the boss."

Is doing more character work a return to your earlier days?
No, it was no fun at all in my early days. I was playing smaller parts because I hadn't become certified at that point.

When working with younger actors, do you tend to give them advice?
[Chuckles] No, I don't give advice. It's neither appropriate nor very nice to walk onto a set telling people how to conduct their lives, their careers. So, no. I hope I'm collegial and friendly. I had a great time working with Liam [Hemsworth] and Gary [Oldman], the younger actors. Everybody's younger than I am.

There are still some actors older than you.
How many?

MATT PRIGGE
matt.prigge@metro.us

Back in the day

Before Han Solo

Back in 1969, well before he was known, Ford almost wound up playing the lead in French filmmaker Jacques Demy's first and only American film, "Model Shop." "Jacques was a lovely guy," he says of the late director, most famous for "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg" musical. "He wanted to make this movie in Los Angeles. When you drove down Santa Monica Boulevard, you'd see these 'Live Nude Girls' signs for all kinds of weird stuff that was going on. He imagined a movie about a young man and a woman who worked in one of these places. We were friends and we researched it a bit. Jacques wanted me to star in it. And the studio, who was paying me $150 a week — and had all the respect for me that $150 a week implies — cast the film with Gary Lockwood while Jacques was up in San Francisco scouting locations. That was a shock to him. For me, it was just another indication that I was hanging my hat on the wrong peg."

Quoted

"I'm just not a huge fan of so much connectivity. I use it for research and to take messages. ... It's a love-hate relationship."
Ford, on technology

TV watch list

REALITY

'My Ghost Story: Caught on Camera'

In this episode, a janitor's ghost haunts an abandoned high school. If it's abandoned, how would they know it was the janitor's ghost? Did they just assume it was the janitor because the high school was so clean? **9 P.M., BIO**

REALITY

'House Hunters'

A couple seeks a Chicago dwelling with a master bathroom and a two-car garage, but they might not be able to afford it because of the engagement ring they hope to buy. That is either a very affordable house, or a very expensive engagement ring. **10 P.M., HGTV**

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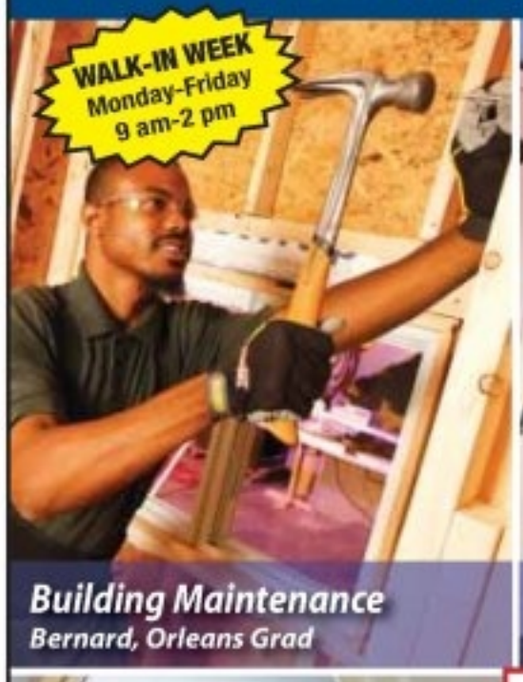

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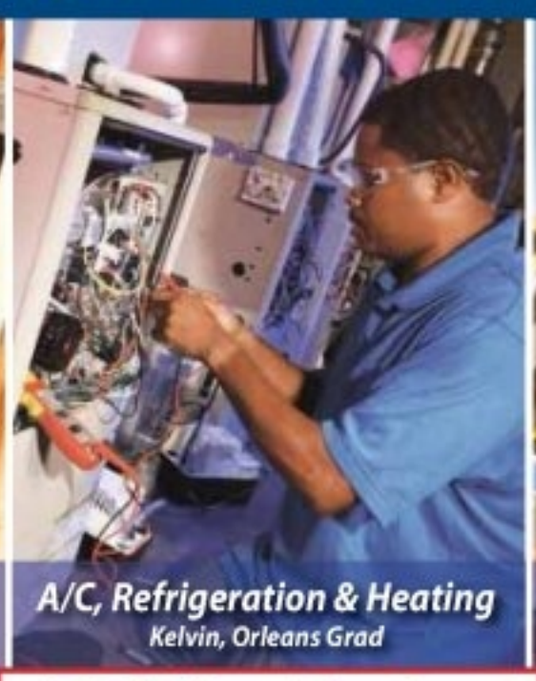
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Sun Honglei, left, and Louis Koo, right, play a detective and a drug lord in "Drug War." / VARIANCE FILMS

Ignore the generic title

Crime saga. Director Johnnie To's "Drug War" is thrilling under its cool exterior.

The Hong Kong-based director Johnnie To is one of cinema's most prolific, averaging three films a year. The ones that get the most attention overseas tend to be thrillers, but he's also diverse, just as comfortable churning out romantic comedies and other genre fare. The speed and variance of his work give each film a strange kick. "Drug War," To's latest to be imported here has a generic title, but it's incredibly idiosyncratic and could only have come from him.

The film finds drug lord Timmy Choi (To regular Louis Koo) nabbed by detectives, who are as ruthless and heartless as anyone on the other side of the law. Faced with execution, Choi proves eager to go turncoat for a cruel detective (Sun Honglei), bringing him closer to a fearsome ring that includes two deaf-mute brothers.

To is a calm and collected filmmaker whose roaming camera movements look at once spontaneous and perfectly considered. There are fewer violent outbursts than in past To films, though the few — including an epic climax where no character is safe — are blood-curdling in their steely efficiency.

There in spades, however, are To's other usual, eccentric concerns, and his habit of sneaking bizarre lines of thinking into otherwise lean thrillers. Things don't get as out-there as in his Johnny Hallyday-starring "Vengeance," which at one point segues into a left-field homage to "Macbeth"'s Birnam Wood siege. But there are long stretches that ruminate, playfully, on the acting aspect of being undercover, plus a goofy streak that keeps throwing things off.

See more at www.metro.us

Review

'Drug War'

Director: Johnnie To

Stars: Louis Koo, Sun Honglei

Rating: R

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Oprah's 'Butler' cleans up at movie theaters

Box office. The civil rights drama pulled in $25 million.

Lee Daniels, Oprah Winfrey and Forest Whitaker celebrate "The Butler" at the film's L.A. premiere.
GETTY IMAGES FOR TWC

"Lee Daniels' The Butler," a civil rights drama starring Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey, easily won the weekend box office battle, pulling in $25 million from U.S. and Canadian ticket sales through Sunday.

The Jennifer Aniston comedy "We're the Millers" finished second in its second week in release, earning $17.8 million and beating "Kick-Ass 2," a comedy sequel about a teenage crime-fighting duo, which came in fourth with $13.57 million in its first three days, according to studio estimates.

The Matt Damon sci-fi thriller "Elysium" finished third in its second week, with $13.6 million.

"The Butler," featuring Winfrey's first acting role since 1998, is inspired by the life of Eugene Allen, an African-American White House butler who served eight U.S. presidents. Whitaker plays the butler opposite Winfrey, his chain-smoking, hard-drinking wife, Gloria. It was directed by Lee Daniels.

"We expected it to do well. We did not expect it to do this well," said Erik Lomis, distribution president for the Weinstein Co, the privately held company that distributed the movie.

"Kick-Ass 2," a follow-up to the 2010 original, stars Aaron Taylor-Johnson as a nerdy teenage boy who fights injustice as costumed superhero Kick-Ass. Chloe Moretz plays his sidekick, Hit Girl.

In "We're the Millers," Aniston stars as a stripper who poses as the wife of a small-time pot dealer, played by Jason Sudeikis, to help smuggle marijuana into the United States.

The privately held Weinstein Co distributed "The Butler." "Kick-Ass 2" was released by Universal Pictures, a unit of Comcast Corp. Warner Bros., a unit of Time Warner Inc, released "We're the Millers." Sony Corp.'s movie studio released "Elysium."

REUTERS

Top 5 earners

1. 'The Butler' $25 million
2. 'We're the Millers' $17.8 million
3. 'Elysium' $13.6 million
4. 'Kick-Ass 2' $13.57 million
5. 'Planes' $13.1 million

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'Extreme' obesity is on the rise

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KIM SCHNEIDERMAN, MSW, LCSW

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Kim Schneiderman, MSW, LCSW, is a psychotherapist and former journalist with a private practice in New York City.

ONE WAY TO BE A BETTER FRIEND IS TO LISTEN

During a fight, one of my friends told me I'm a bad listener. I want to repair our relationship. How do I become a better listener?

Respecting someone's boundaries is an important part of friendship. / GETTY IMAGES, FUSE

Once in a while, when a conversation with someone I care about takes an unexpected turn that is not to my liking, I am tempted to stand up and yell "Cut!"

"Excuse me," I imagine myself saying, leaning over the person's shoulder, megaphone dangling at my hip. "But you are not following the script. Your lines are, 'Yes, of course, you are right. I agree wholeheartedly. I will do such and such. Anything to make you happy.'"

"Oh," they respond, slowly emerging from a daze. And they repeat the lines I have fed them. "Great, that's more like it," I reply. "Now say it with feeling."

Of course, my fantasy conversations are usually just that — fantasies. And they're not dialogues either; they are monologues — between me and my ego. Conversations between two parties who are not really listening to each other are essentially monologues masquerading as dialogues.

Most people spend their time vacillating between monologues and dialogues, with dialogues being far less frequent. Early 20th-century philosopher Martin Buber described the difference between monologues and dialogues as an "I-It" vs. "I-Thou" dynamic. In each case, the "I" represents the self — essentially, the totality of our feelings, values and perceptions that comprise our personal daily universe.

According to Buber, the essence of existence lies in how we interact with others. The "I-It" relationship is about objectification. We relate to someone as an "it" every time fear and self-interest interfere with our being able to fully experience the exquisite reality of another human being. At its worst and most obvious, "I-It" is responsible for all genres of human atrocities — from genocide and homicide to domestic violence, racism and sexism.

In our closer relationships, however, "I-It" can be much more insidious. Monologues can easily creep into and potentially corrupt the most innocent of conversations, often unintentionally. This usually occurs when we ignore other people's boundaries, focus too much on making a good impression or engage with someone based on our perceptions of how well they can serve our personal needs.

The "I-Thou" relationship, on the other hand, is about letting go of agendas. It's about authenticity, mutuality, witnessing and truth-telling. It respects differences and embraces separate but equally valid realities, which requires the courage to take risks and trust the process.

One of the hardest things we can ever do, and the greatest act of love, is to put aside our own agendas and really listen to another person. So while I may be tempted to redirect conversations that make me nervous, I know what I must ultimately do: Put down my megaphone, toss out the script, take a deep breath and say, "Yes, I am listening" — and mean it. I recommend you do the same.

— This column is not intended to be used as a substitute for a private consultation with a mental health professional, nor is this therapist to be held liable for any actions taken as a result of this column. If you have any concerns related to this column, make an appointment with a licensed mental health professional. Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author.

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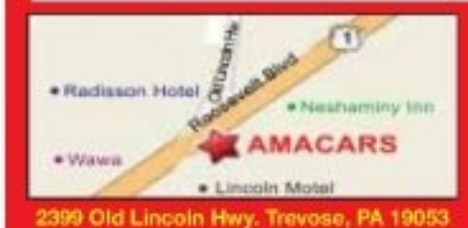

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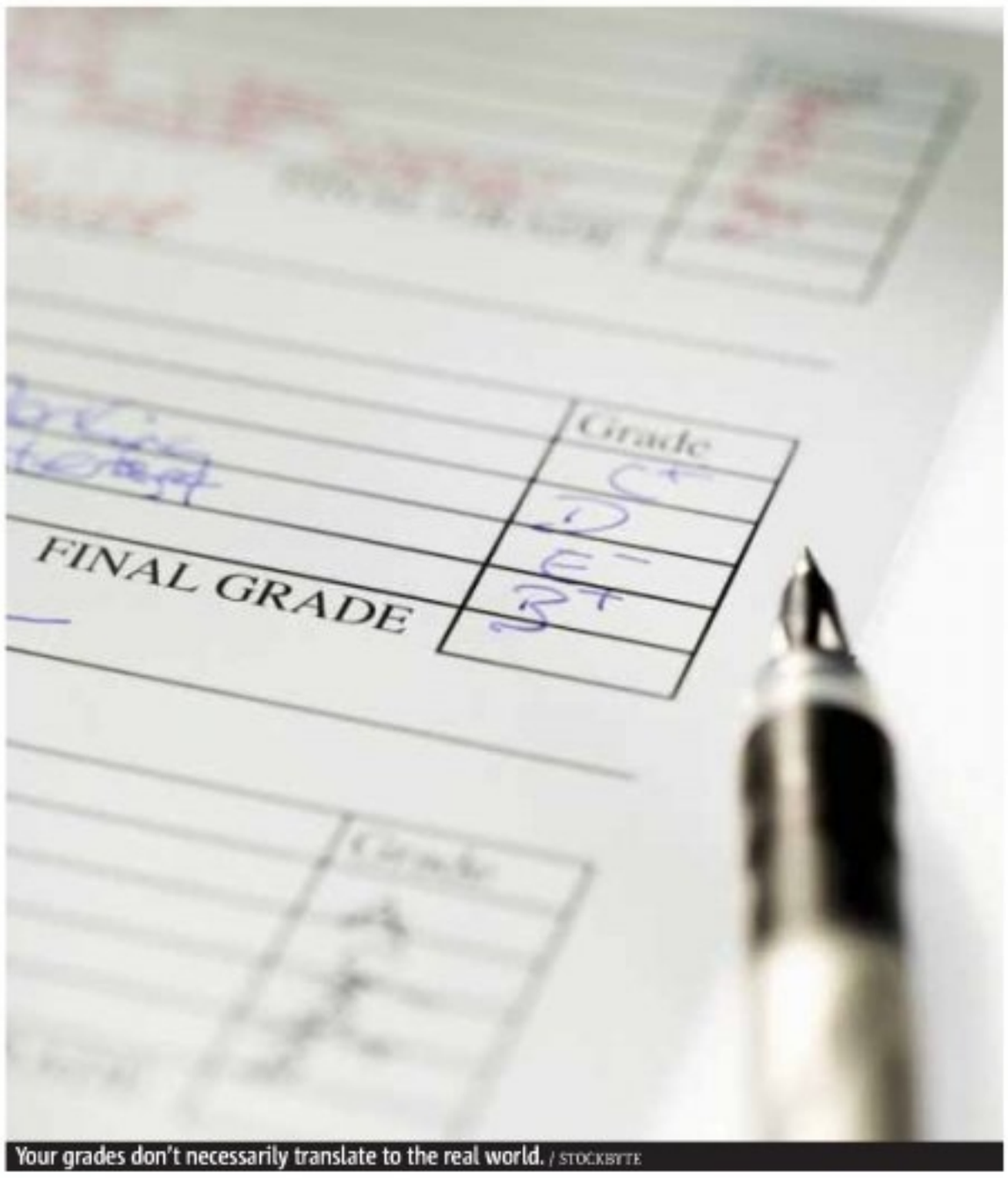
A-pluses for all: Myth-busting grade inflation

GPA. Whether or not grades are going up, analysts are suggesting that the big A-plus may not matter so much in the real world.



Your grades don't necessarily translate to the real world. / STOCKBYTE

As the 2013 fall semester draws nearer, the great grade inflation debate shows no signs of waning, with prominent researchers from around the country split on the basic facts of the question, "Are grades going up?" The answer depends on which analyst is looking into the question. But one prominent study has asked a different question: "If grades are going up, does it really matter?" Surprisingly, the answer is a resounding "no."

In addition to analyzing data on college-level grades nationwide, the new study — "Is the Sky Falling? Grade Inflation and the Signaling Power of Grades" — looked at what those marks meant to the students that received them. The study found that grades are just as important to students today as they were in the '70s — both in terms of the effort they reflect and the career advantages they create.

See more at www.metro.us

"The big scare behind grade inflation is that grades are losing meaning, and that one day they won't mean anything," says Evangaleen Pattison, the lead author of the study. "But our analysis shows that grades are just as meaningful to everyone concerned about them."

Quoted

"Our analysis shows that grades are just as meaningful to everyone concerned about them."

Evangaleen Pattison, lead author of study on grade inflation

The study looked at all the available data gathered by the National Center for Education Statistics on students that graduated high school after 1972 and attended a four-year college. And, by the way, the study did not find any statistical evidence for nation-wide grade inflation, either.

"When it comes to grades, most studies look at the mean, but the mean is sensitive to how you define your population, and that causes a lot of disagreement," says Pattison. She says researchers need to take a broader view: "If you look at the general population — not just people at select institutions — grades have actually gone down."

BRUCE WALSH
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Placing blame

Grades don't always get the gig

Another recent study on grade inflation — "Whose Fault Is It? Assigning Blame For Grade Inflation in Higher Education" — looked exclusively at grades at the University of North Texas over a 27-year period. The researchers found that there was an approximate 4-percent inflation rate on grades during that time.

But, like Pattison, researcher R. Todd Jewell is not too concerned about the outcomes of inflated GPAs.

"I think a lot of people who look at this issue sort of miss the point: Grades are not as important as we think," he explains. "It's a factor in getting a job, but it's not the main factor. Employers still have ways of knowing who is prepared for the job."

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Inside the furry suit: Lexington Lynx

Cheerleader. CUNY's SPS may not have a sports team, but that doesn't stop Lexington Lynx from getting students psyched for class.

College mascots usually spend their time gearing up crowds to cheer on a sports team. Lexington Lynx, the mascot of the City University of New York School of Professional Studies, doesn't have an arena to inspire, but he doesn't let that get him down. The beloved Lynx, played by Anthony Sweeney and four other CUNY staffers, can be found at student events as well as online, where he seeks to grow the sense of community at a school with thousands of far-flung students.

I hear that Lexington Lynx is a new addition to the CUNY community. What's that like?
Yes, Lex is very young. Actually, Lex was created by the students and selected through a competition. He was born in 2011, so his presence and personality are still developing. I think people like that he's a ferocious lynx — he's kind of a wild, untamed beast. He's not your snuggly feline that people like to watch on the Internet.

Where can students go to see Lex, if not at sporting events?
Well, Lex can often be found studying at our library at Baruch's campus or in our study room, but he's been known to go down into Herald Square and walk around. We brought him to Penn Station, we've brought him to things like the Komen breast cancer race in Central Park. He becomes our rallying point — he walked with the walkers. He's something that our students can identify with.

What kinds of events does he attend, and how is he received?
For the last academic year, he showed up at any event where students gathered. He was a huge hit at graduation, actually. We thought he was going to be a hit with our students' families, but he was actually a hit with our students. Our students' average age is around 35, so to be with Lex and have our adult students really wanting pictures with him and wanting to show him off felt kind of amazing.

Lexington Lynx takes a turn as a straphanger

Is there any mascot rivalry with other schools?
Oh yeah, there's some friendly competition. When I get together with my counterparts at the other CUNY schools, there's a lot of mascot-envy from other schools

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EDUCATION TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

on his way to graduation. / PROVIDED

Quoted

"We don't have a campus, we don't have a quad, we don't have an athletics team. Many of our students are online; they may not set foot into one of our physical classrooms. Lex was created with the idea of having him be a center point of our community."

Anthony Sweeney, aka Lexington Lynx

that actually have sports teams.

CUNY's SPS is a pretty nontraditional place as far as college mascots go.
Right — we don't have a campus, we don't have a quad, we don't have an athletics team. Many of our students are online; they may not set foot into one of our physical classrooms. Lex was created with the idea of having him be a center point of our community.

So what's next for Lex?
I think Lex's online presence is going to grow and start to be animated. He'll pounce on you, he's a really big nerd. He's not afraid to play hard at all. In fact, he loves to play hard and study as hard as he plays. I think Lex is the biggest cheerleader for the success of our students. He's there to make them laugh, to remind them of deadlines and to support them. He's still figuring out how our students best need support — that's his biggest job.

JULIA FURLAN
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States link funding to university performance

Budget balance.
Twelve states will begin pegging college funding to student success.

States are beginning to connect funding to performance — a scary prospect for some public universities. / GETTY IMAGES/FUSE

As they struggle to recover from the recession, 12 U.S. states are tying funding for public colleges and universities to performance measures, Standard & Poor's Ratings Service said on Thursday.

"States are hesitant to fully restore higher education budgets because the rate of the economic recovery has been slower than expected," the rating agency said in a report.

Typically, states base the amount of money sent to universities on enrollment. But 12 states, including Pennsylvania, Michigan and Illinois, are tying funding to retention rates or to the number of low-income students who graduate, S&P said.

Colorado, Missouri, Arkansas and Virginia are also in the process of adopting performance-based funding, "and several additional states have had discussions or hearings about the topic," S&P said.

According to the National Association of State Budget Officers, state spending per student reached a 25-year low in 2010 and total higher education appropriations declined by 20 percent between 1987 and 2011. REUTERS

Starting small

Schools are looking to maximize state funds

The percentage of higher education funding tied to performance is still relatively small.

"However, with increasing pressure on state budgets for accountability and return on investment, this percentage seems to be growing," S&P said. "And, in order to maximize state funds available to them, an increasing number of public institutions are growing 'student success' efforts and programs designed to improve these performance metrics."

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EDUCATION TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

Assembly required to build a dream job

Goals. Putting together the life you've always imagined for yourself isn't a sure bet, but that's the point.

Chip Hiden and Alexis Irvin traveled to get inspired. / PROVIDED

Finding and pursuing a dream job seems like a big job unto itself — just getting by is overwhelming enough. In their book "Build Your Dreams," Alexis Irvin and Chip Hiden collected advice from dream-chasing Americans who chased their passions and made it work for them.

In 2009, Irvin and Hiden graduated from college and started working, but it didn't take long for them to realize they weren't in the right fields. They quit their jobs, packed up their stuff and drove across America, interviewing successful people who had found work that they were passionate about. Their research turned into a movie called "The Dream Share Project," which inspired their book of advice.

Work used to mean earning a salary, and any dreams were for your spare time. Why is having a dream job so important?

Chip Hiden: The definition of how we define success, at least in America, is shifting somewhat. Today I think that people are finding that happiness also can drive what you do with the time you give to honest work. You [can] make a lasting contribution. And I think that young people are starting to think more about the legacy they will leave. We are not just thinking about money.

What if you reach your limit before you reach the ultimate goal?

CH: One thing that we found is that it's not necessarily obtaining whatever the goal is [that matters]. It's more the journey along the way that is the really rewarding and exciting part. In our case, we made the film, which was super exciting, and then we were like, "OK, now let's try to write a book." Try to enjoy the journey and take some time to look around and realize that you are pursuing something you care about.

Al: We found that everyone who we interviewed during the trip had taken many different turns in their careers. Some people have one firm dream and work straight to it, but others have multiple career changes to get to their dream job. Just see where the journey takes you. You might start out with one goal but find out that you want to do something completely different.

MAJA LUNDAGER
letters@metro.us

Dare to dream

Tips for living the dream

Discover: Ask yourself: What excites you? What makes you get up in the morning? Try the potential paths you might want to follow and cross off the ones that didn't work for you.

Research: Create a plan of everything you will have to do to get to your dream job. Whatever your passion is, you can find a way to teach and educate yourself on the Internet. See how your role models got to where they are.

Embark: Take the first steps. You have your idea and you have done your research. Now it's time to raise some money and get to work.

Adapt: Find your persistence to overcome the rejections that you definitely will have.

Maintain: Find multiple revenue streams from the one idea you have, and always brainstorm on the next expansion of your idea.

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Horoscope

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. You should try new avenues. Strive to be your best. Romance will improve your day.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Discuss with a colleague the way you want to see a situation move forward. Compromise and discipline will help you find common ground.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Put more thought into self-improvement projects and activities that challenge you. Romance is on the rise, but motives may be questionable.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Steps you take to improve your surroundings will benefit you financially. An unusual offer will bring you greater stability.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. If you frankly express your thoughts, you will get a favorable response. Do what you can to improve the way you live.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Eat properly and start a regimented routine that will strengthen you mentally, physically and emotionally. Keep fit and live a simpler life.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. The changes you plan to make will help get your finances in order, so don't delay.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Engage in activities that allow you to broaden your horizons. You will find inspiration if you look for it. Added responsibility will come with benefits.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Put more thought into the way you conduct yourself at work or at home. A change of heart can lead to greater happiness with someone special.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Be careful when sharing information — someone with ulterior motives may butter you up.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. You'll discover interesting information regarding someone who can help you in a professional capacity. Love is on the rise.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Do something creative or sign up for an unusual activity or community event that will help you find fresh ideas with which to approach life.

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Sudoku: Easy and hard

5	3		8	7	1			2
4		6	3				7	
	5		6					
3	8	4				6	9	5
					4		3	
	7				2	9		8
8			4	6	3		1	7

		1		4				
	8			6		4		
		4	7		8	9		
			8		5		3	2
3		5		7		6		8
8	2		6		3			
		3	4		6	8		
		8		2			5	
				8		3		

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Hate is a stupid reason to make love

Re: 'When opposites attract: The rules of hate-sex' (Metro, Aug. 15-18) What was Twanna Hines' column on "hate-sex" about? I guess I realize that this is the type of thing someone who calls herself a sex columnist would write about, but what a ridiculous amount of nonsense. First of all, the concept is ludicrous. What an odd proclivity to devote a column to. This is stupid drivel, with an endorsement from an "expert." Who would be looking for this kind of "advice," and worse yet, who would take it?

JOHN SHAUGHNESSY, VIA EMAIL

Oprah, a true inspiration

Re: 'Oprah Winfrey is not a control freak' (Metro, Aug. 15-18) Thanks for your article on Oprah Winfrey's movie, and mentioning her mother and grandmother were both maids, and before that her ancestors were slaves. She is truly a rags-to-riches inspiration; and she, incredibly, did it on her own without outside help, other than her grandmother teaching her to read. Oprah rose to be a billionaire without stepping on anyone's toes; instead, she helped others out along the way.

RICHARD KANE, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

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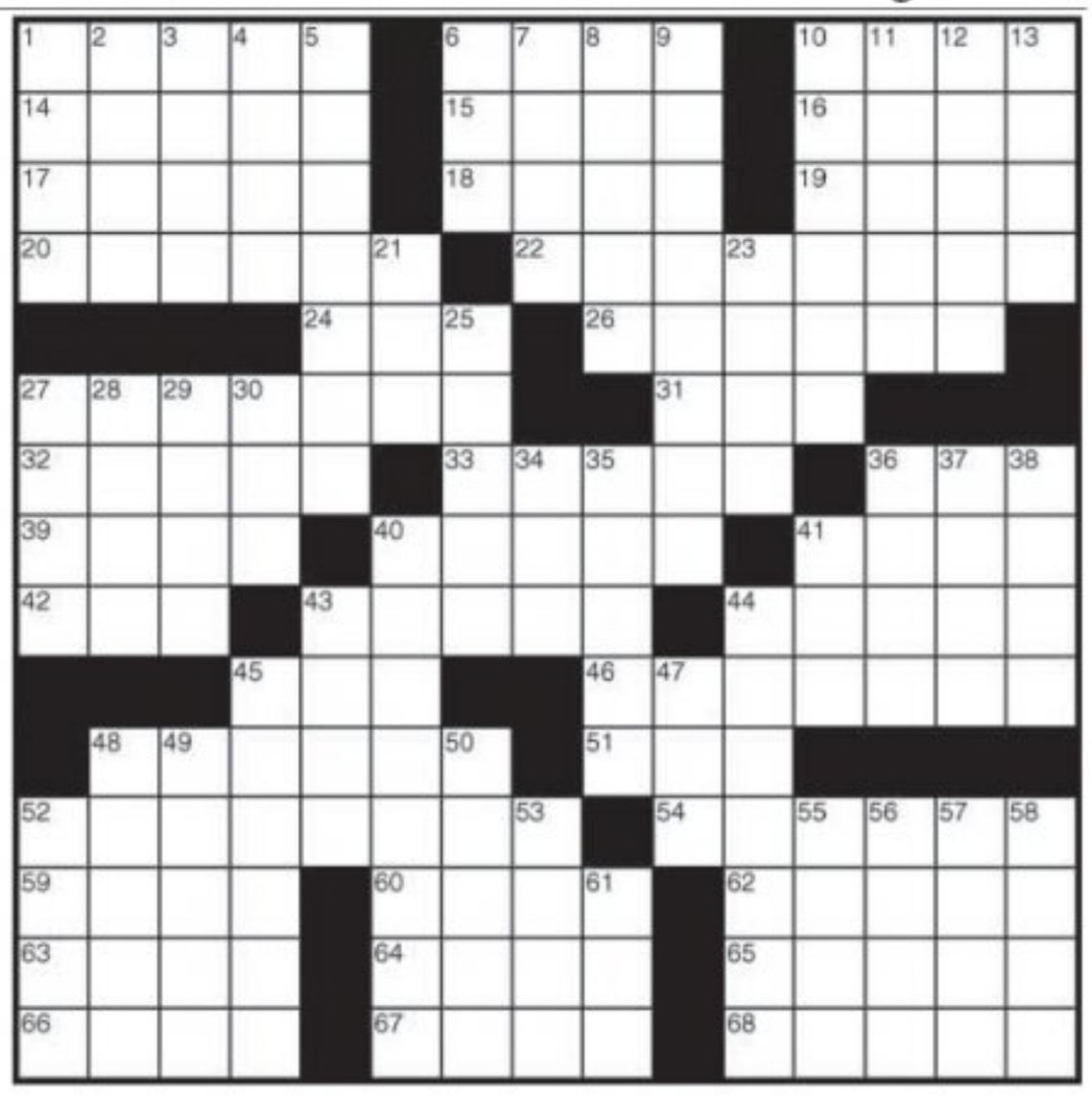
Across

1 Sorted socks
6 Ski lift (hyph.)
10 Like worn tires
14 "What's in — —?"
15 Humdinger
16 Canal of song
17 Radio, TV, etc.
18 Bin
19 Enjoy a repast
20 Prizes
22 Equipped (2 wds.)
24 Distress signal
26 Brother's girls
27 Chatoyant stone (hyph.)
31 Long-horned ox
32 Insurance center
33 Of the Vatican
36 Derrick arm
39 Microwave setting
40 Jet jockey
41 Commuter vehicle
42 Fabric meas.
43 Orange box
44 Teed off
45 "Alice" waitress
46 Derision
48 Brass band event
51 "Crocodile" Dundee's pal
52 Sent back to a lower court
54 Cays
59 Party cheese
60 Strong metal
62 "In what way?" (2 wds.)
63 Flying piscivore
64 Cleopatra's river
65 Barracuda habitat
66 Stow
67 "— — grip!"
68 Be apprehensive

Down

1 Informal parent
2 One way to start
3 "I did it!" (hyph.)
4 Sheik colleague
5 Scroll site (2 wds.)
6 RN's specialty
7 One-horse town
8 UFO passenger
9 Omar Khayyam opus
10 Adorn
11 Hitch — —
12 "Peanuts" character
13 Heartfelt
21 Tofu base
23 Not imaginary
25 Tintype hue
27 Lauder rival
28 In the course of
29 Jaunty caps
30 Lauper's "— Bop"
34 Model Carol —
35 Sonnets
36 Feint
37 Ovid's route
38 Miss Marple discovery
40 Nudging forward
41 La. neighbor
43 Plaid wearers
44 Rink event (2 wds.)
45 Falsely incriminated
47 Ja, to Jacques
48 Slugger — Guerrero
49 Fridge maker
50 Spooky
52 Movie spool
53 Blockhead
55 Plumb crazy
56 Water pitcher
57 Romanov title
58 Walkman brand
61 PBS funder



Weekend's answer

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Manuel often had answers for those struggling to hit

MLB. The now former Phils manager had the time to correct just about everyone's hitting woes.

One of the familiar lines from Charlie Manuel's detractors during his nine-year run as Phillies manager was, "If he is such a hitting guru, why aren't the Phillies hitting better?"

Well, you have to listen to Manuel and apply what he says, because the most successful manager in Phillies history knows hitting.

Five years ago, my then 9-year-old daughter was having some issues catching up with the heat in her new level of softball. I explained the situation to Manuel after he addressed the media before a game and asked for advice. He smiled while saying this was right in his wheelhouse.

"Your daughter bats left-handed just like I did," Manuel said. "All right. Tell her I want her to do what I did when I batted against Nolan Ryan. I want her to cheat. What I mean is that I want her to drop her bat into the zone just as the pitcher is winding up. Then I want her to flick her bat at the ball and hit it the other way, just like Ichiro [Suzuki] and she'll be fine."

Manuel was right. His 60-second tutorial was exactly what Jillian needed as she hit one ball after another over the shortstop's head.

"If they're throwing hard, let them do most of the work for you," Manuel said. "You'll see."

A few weeks later Manuel asked how my daughter was hitting. I told him that she was doing fine.

"I knew it," Manuel said. "I was just checking."

Not every manager would be so keen on offering such advice or care about the pupil he never met. But Manuel is a people person.

"My favorite manager I ever played for was Charlie," former Phillies starter Jon Lieber said. "I played for a lot of different managers, including Joe Torre, and Charlie was hands down the best. We could get our butts kicked and lose 20-0 and he would come by your locker, pat you on the back and say, 'It's all right; we'll get 'em tomorrow.' He always knew what to say."

ED CONDRAN
sports@metro.us

Charlie Manuel was fired by the Phillies last Friday. / GETTY IMAGES

3 SPORTS

MLB

Sandberg on the board

Ryne Sandberg picked up his first win as a major league manager yesterday as the Phillies beat the red-hot Dodgers, 3-2, at Citizens Bank Park. A ninth-inning Hanley Ramirez error at shortstop allowed Casper Wells to score the winning run.

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Soul lose ArenaBowl second straight year

ArenaBowl XXVI. Philadelphia couldn't keep up with the output by Arizona's air attack.

Rattlers quarterback Nick Davila threw for six touchdowns in the win over the Soul. / GETTY IMAGES

Although the outcome was a little closer, it was deja vu all over again for the Philadelphia Soul, who lost to the Arizona Rattlers, 48-39, Saturday night in ArenaBowl XXVI for the second consecutive season.

Hoping to capture its first title since 2008, the Soul came into Saturday's game winless (0-4) all time versus the defending-champion Rattlers. Two losses came in 2013 by an average of 10.5 points. Costly turnovers, three missed extra points by Carlos Martinez and a blocked field goal before the half were some of the reasons the American Conference Champions were bridesmaids again.

"It's tough to come back and have it slip through your fingers again, but we'll be back," Soul quarterback Dan Raudabaugh told reporters after the game. "If you want to be the best, you have to beat the best. Right now, Arizona is the best."

With Soul wide receiver Larry Brackins sitting out with a hamstring injury, rookie wideout Ryan McDaniel emerged as Raudabaugh's favorite target with a career-high 13 receptions for 137 yards and two touchdowns. McDaniel gave the Soul its only lead of the game (24-21) in the third quarter when he caught a 12-yard touchdown pass from Raudabaugh.

Arizona is the first AFL repeat champions since the Tampa Bay Storm in 1995-96.

Rattlers wide receiver Rod Windsor captured MVP honors with 10 receptions for 145 yards.

SONNY PINKNEY
sports@metro.us

Waiting game

Kelly yet to name starter

Head coach Chip Kelly deferred after Saturday's practice, saying he would wait until today to name a starter for the Eagles' third preseason game.

Nick Foles started the team's 14-9 win over Carolina on Thursday, but Vick played the second quarter and was 9-of-10 for 105 yards.

Kelly wouldn't even answer what specifically he was looking for in the competition.

"There's so many different factors that go into it, I don't think there's a one-sentence answer," Kelly told reporters Saturday.

"No matter what the situation," Kelly said. "You become a starter, that doesn't mean you kick your feet up and say, 'I'm all set, this is a good deal.'" METRO

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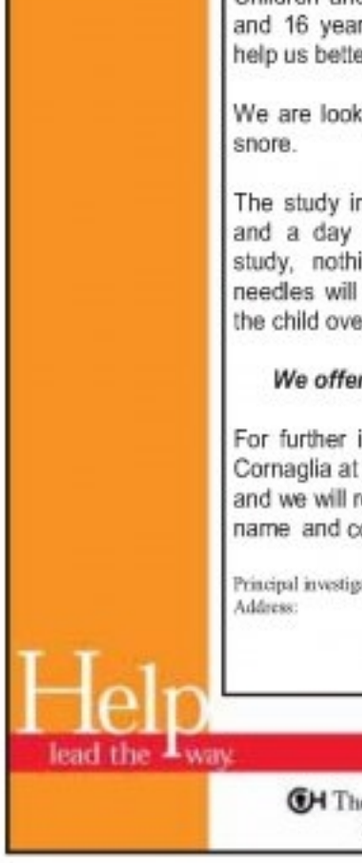

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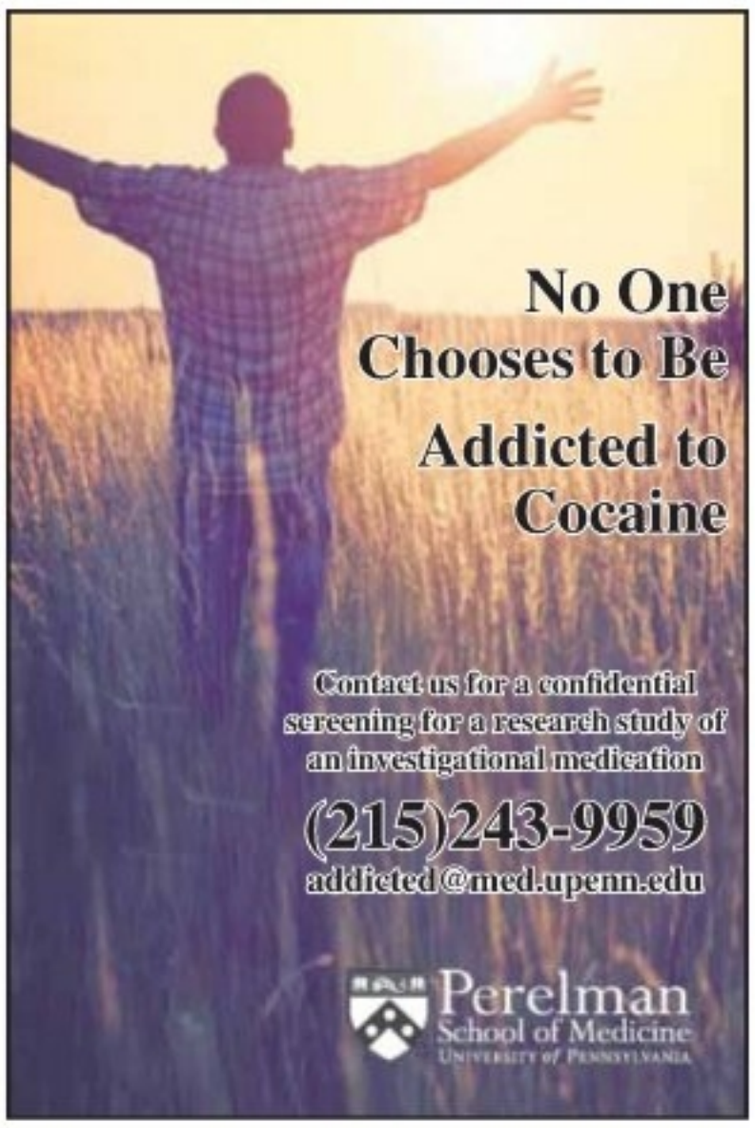
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Notices

Legal Notices

Name Change
Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, August term, 2013 , No. 003489.

Notice is hereby given that on August 19, 2013 , the petition of : Francis Schmidt was filed, praying for a decree to change name to Francis Deniro.

The Court has fixed courtdate, August 20 at 12 P.M., in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA, for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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